四拜禮

"OPAL.

THIRTY DOLLARS

PER ANNUM.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

New Series No. 462 Banks. THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED. Subscribed Capital...... 300,000 HEAD OFFICE :- HONGKONG. Court of Directors:-ChowTung Shang, Esq. Kwan Hoi Chuen, Esq. D. Gillies, Esq. H. Stolterioht, Esq. Chan Kit Shan, Esq. Chief Manager, GEO, W. F. PLAYFAIR, Interest for 12 months Fixed, 5 per Cent. Hongkong, 23rd October, 1893. LTONGKONG AND SHANGHA BANKING CORPORATION. PAID-UP CAPITAL\$10,000,000 RESERVE FUND 6,000,000 RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROP'TORS...\$10,000,000 COURT OF DIRECTORS A. McConachie, Esq.—Chairman. ST. C. MICHAELSEN, Esq. - Deputy Chairman. Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving. | R. L. Richardson, Esq. C. Beurmann, Esq. Alex. Ross, Esq. G. B. Dodwell, Esq. D. R. Sassoon, Esq. R. Shewan, Esq. N. A. Siebs, Esq. M. D. Ezekiel, Esq. R. M. Gray, Esq. CHIEF MANAGER: Hongkong-T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER: Shanghai-J. P. WADE GARD'NER, Esq. LONDON BANKERS-LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED. HONGKONG-INTEREST ALLOWED On Current Account at the rate of a per Cent, per Annum on the daily balance, INTEREST ON FIXED DEFOSITS : For 3 months, 22 per Cent. per Annum.

For o months, 31 per Cent. per Annum. For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum. T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 13th November, 1896. HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

FIFE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application. INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 32 PER

CENT. per annum. Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the Hongkong AMD SHAMGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum. For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI

BANKING CORPORATION, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager. Hongkong, 1st August, 1895.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

HEAD OFFICE :- LONDON. RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the Daily Balances. On Fixed Deposits for 12 months... 4 per cent.

*** 24 T. H. WHITEHEAD, Manager, Hongkong. Hengkong, 19th October, 1866,

ARBOLINEUM-AVENARIUS USED FOR 20 YEARS. With the Ulmost Success.

Thoroughly reliable preservative for Wood ard Stone against White Ants, Decay, Fungus Rot and Dampness.

Sole Agents for China, SCHEELE & Co. Hongkong, 15th May, 1806.

Insurances.

日九廿月十年二十二緒光

EMPRESS ASSURANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED. FIRE AND MARINE.

WE have This Day been appointed AGENTS, and are prepared to accept RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co. Hongkong, 28th April, 1896. THE MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE

COMPANY. ESTABLISHED A.D. 1894.

NET ANNUAL FIRE PREMIA...... 757.47 HAVING been appointed AGENTS of the above Company we are prepared to accept EUROPEAN and CHINESE RISKS at CURRENT RATES. HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, and January, 1896. NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE -COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above Company are prepared to accept First Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSSEN & Co. Hongkong, 28th May, 1895. 134 GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY, (LIMITED.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 600,000 } \$833,333-33. EOUAL TO RESERVE FUND \$318,000.00.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS. LO YEUR MOON, Esq. LEE SING, Esq. LOU TEO SHUN, Esq.

MANAGER.—HO AMEL A MARINE RISKS on GOODS, &c., taken at CURRENT RATES to all parts of the Weeld.

HEAD OFFICE, 8 & 9, PRAYA WEST. Hongkong, 17th December, 1881. NOTICE,

THE MAN ON INSURANCE COMPANY. LIMITED. CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED\$1,000,000

The above Company is prepared to accept MARINE RISKS at CURRENT RATES ON GOODS, &c. Policies granted to all Parts of the world payable at any of its Agencies, CHAU TSEUNG FAT.

Secretaty. HEAD OFFICE No. 2. QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

Gangkans, with Way, 1804.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

IN 71TH reference to Government Notifica-EXHIBITORS who desire to take part in the PARIS EXHIBITION of 1900 are requested to communicate before the 31st instant with the Undersigned.

By Command, I. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary. Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong, 1st December, 1896. . NOTICE.

THE Undersigned has been appointed SPECIAL AGENT for the MITSU BISHI GOSHI-KWAISHA (MITSU BISH) COMPANY) of TORIO. The OFFICE of the COMPANY has been REMOVED from No. 7, Praya Central to No.

I, DUDDELL STREET. H. U. JEFFRIES, Hongkong, 1st December, 1896.

Intimations.

EXPLOSION IMPOSSIBLE.

ASTRAM'S PATENT GOLDEN MEDAL

EUM EN OF 2 TO 12 H.P.

FOR FACTORIES AND LAUNCHES.

WORKED BY ORDINARY PETROLEUM. Consumption of Petroleum 1 15. per H.P. and Hour.

A Working Stationary Engine and a Launch with a 4 H.P. Engine will be shown and full particulars be given on application.

> SCHEELE & CO., HONGKONG, SOLE AGENTS FOR THE EAST.

NO PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER REQUIRED.



THE

CLUB HOTEL

HOTEL

5, BUND, POROHAMA. TIRST-CLASS HOTELS, centrally situated, well-furnished, the Cuisine under the Supervision of approved French Chef has no equal ENTIRE FOREIGN MANAGEMENT.

Experienced English matron in attendance. The Hotel steam-launch with European Agent attends arrivals and departures; every assistance given in clearing luggages and affording information. Passengers are met at the

Railway Station. VISITORS have the option of messing either in TOKYO or YOKOHAMA, without extra Charge-THE ONLY HOTEL OFFERING SUCH AM ADVANTAGE. EUROPEAN HAIR DRESSER on the Premises.

Cartified Guides are in attendance at both Hotels. THE CLUB HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED, PROPRIETORS.

B. V. SIOEN, Manager TOROHAMA.

L. DEWETTE, Manager,

I, TSUKIJI, TOKYO.

SIR CHAS. PRICE'S ENGINE and CYLINDER OILS.

EAGLEBERTS CYLINDER OIL. INTERNATIONAL ANTIFOULING COMPOSITION

This Composition has been Supplied to all the Navies of the World and all the principal Steamship Companies.

WATER SUPPLIED.

Intimations.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1896.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM

NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Hongkong, and December, 1896.

Hongkong, 19th November, 1895.

REMARKS

Freight or Passage. (Passing through the Inland Sca.) Freight or Passage. JAPAN, &c.SundaE. H. Gordon About 5th Dec.... (Passing through the Inland Sea.)

LONDONPalawas.........C. E. BakerAbout 24th Dec...Freight or Passage, For Further Particulars, apply to H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent,

HONGKONG BUTCHERY.

PRIME FRESH BEEF AND SHANGHAI MUTTON. CORNED BEEF. CALIFORNIA CREAMERY BUTTER. \$1.40 per Roll.

CELEBRATED CLUB HOUSE SAUSAGES. Twenty-five Cents per Pound.

J. TATAM, PROPRIETOR.

dos, pints\$35 per case. quarts\$33

SHEWAN & Co. Agents.

1004

Hongkong, 25th June, 1805.

(READY MADE.)

EVERY SIZE FROM

THREE YARDS BY TWO YARDS SIX YARDS BY SEVEN YARDS.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1896.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO., WINE and SPIRIT MERCHANTS.



15, QUEEN'S ROADHONGKONG. 4, FOOCHOW ROADSHANGHAL LEADENHALL HOUSE.....LONDON. ST. ENOCH'S SQUAREGLASGOW.

AGBNCIES :-TELEPHONE-75. AMOY, CANTON, FOOCHOW, CHEFOO, HANKOW, SINGAPORE, TIENTSIN, TAIWANFOO AND KOBE. Hongkong, 17th November, 1825.

A E B S

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., SHIPCHANDLERS,

DECK AND RNGINE-ROOM STORES OF ALL RINDS.

LIUBBUCK'S FIRST QUALITY PAINTS and OILS.

FOR SHIPS BOTTOMS.

INNUMERABLE TESTIMONIALS. CALL FLAG "R."

Elemphones 11th Movember, 1846.

[975

Intimations.

號三月二十英港香

ASBESTOS BELL'S AGENCY, **EASTERN** LIMITED.

"DAGGER" PACKINGS excell over all others for high pressure.

HEMP, COTTON and RUBBER PACKINGS.

HOT and COLD WATER JOINTS of the best quality only kept in stock: HEAVY ENGINE OIL a speciality.

CYLINDER OILS from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per Gallon.

Hongkong, 27th November, 1896.

UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL AGENCY, LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN HONGKONG, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,

UNITED ASBESTOS COMPANY, LIMITED, LONDON, PIONEERS OF THE ASBESTOS TRADE. Contractors to H.M. Government, and the Principal English, "Indian, Colonial and Foreign Rallways, including the Imperial Railways of Japan.

MANUFACTURERS OF The Best Qualities of ASBESTOS and RUBBER GOODS for the VERY HIGHEST PRESSURES. Cheaper Qualities for Low PRESSURES.

The "VICTOR" METALLIC PACKING has been adopted by the Lords of the Admiralty for use throughout Her Majesty's Navy. The "VICTOR" METALLIC JOINTING MATERIALS for Steam and Hydraulic Joints, Manhole and Mudhole Doors, &c., are also used on every Battleship, Cruiser, Gunboat, Terpodo-

boat and Transport in H.M. Service.
"SALAMANDER" Non-conducting Composition for Bellers, Hot-water Tanks, Pipes, &c. IN TWO QUALITIES.

SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR QUANTITIES.

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., General Agents.



famous Malt Tonic and Drink. Try it once and you will order it One trial will convince you of its

merits. Do not confuse it with cheap and abominable stuffs.

SEATTLE BREWING AND MALTING Co.,

Acting Manager. Hongkong, 13th November, 1806. HONGKONG BRANCH, ICE HOUSE LANE.

HAVE NOW A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF ATKINSON'S PERFUMES AND ARE SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF WHITE HEATHER BOUQUET.

Sole Agents for VIN PASTEUR the great French Nerve Tonic. Also Sole Agents for the now well-known JAPANESE TABLE WATER TANSAN.

FLETCHER & CO. CARMICHAEL & CO.

THE-MURDER OF DELICIA, BY MARIE CORRELLI\$1.20 Hongkong Tide Tables 0.50 Boy's Own Annual, 1896...... 4.00 Giri's Own Annual, 1896...... 4.00 Children's Friend.

W. BREWER & Raphael Tucks New CALENDARS 1897.

NEW ANNUALS.

Nister's Annual Young England New Volume 3.00 Sunday Chatterbox. Child's Own Magazine. Raphael Tucks New Our Darlings, &c., &c., &c. CHRISTMAS CARDS. DIARIES 1897,

LARGE VARIETY.

TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS. "Exculsion," Hongkong, A, B; C, Code. THE TEMPERATURE IS AT LEAST 10 DEGREES COOLER THAN IN

QUEEN'S ROAD. . TIFFIN AT I P.M. DINNER AT 8 P.M. ARRANGEMENTS can be made for TIFFIN or DINNER PARTIES in PRIVATE DIMING-ROOMS.

For further Particulars apply to

THE MANAGER, MOUNT AUSTIN HOTEL.



Wongbong, 27th July, 2802

IND COOPE'S ALE.

Brewed from the finest English Malt and Hops, light in body with full hop flavour.

Hong Name: Per Cash of & Dozen Quarts ... \$13. Per Dozen ... \$8.85. Per Desen ... \$1,80. Per Cash of 8 Dozen Pints ...\$14. TREEPHONE, No. 135.

> SOLE AGENTS:-WINE AND SPIRIT! MERCHANTS.

No. 19, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. Hanglese inch Nevember, 2850

To-day's Advertisentents.

FOR SHANGHAI, THE Steamship

"LOONGMOON," Captain F. W. Schulz, will be despatched for the above Port TO-MORROW, the 4th instant, at 4 P.M. instead of as previously advertised. For Freight or Passage, apply to SIEMSSEN & Co.

Hoogkong, 3rd December, 1806. CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,

LIMITED, FOR SHANGHAL

For Freight or Passage, apply to

THE Company's Steamship "FOOCHOW." Captain Blackburne, will be despatched as above

on SATURDAY, the 5th instant, at 2 P.M.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 3rd December, 1896.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR." Captain J. G. Oltient, will be despatched for the above Forts on SATURDAY, the 5th Instant, at 3 P.M., instead of as previously advertised, For Freight or Passage, apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,"

Hongkong, 3rd December, 1806. CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY. LIMITED.

FOR MANILA (DIRECT). THE Company's Steamship

"SUNGKIANG." Captain C. B. N. Dodd, will be despatched as

above on SATURDAY, the 5th instant, at 4 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE. Hongkong, and December, 1806.

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,

LIMITED. FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE

THE Company's Steamship

"TSINAN." Captain G. Remsay, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 8th instant. For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Hongkong, 3rd December, 1896. AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGA

TION COMPANY. (Under Mail Contract with the Austrian GOVERNMENT.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO BOMBAY, KURACHI, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, BRINDISI, VENICE, FIUME AND TRIESTE.

(Taking Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA. MADRAS, PERSIAN GULF, RED SEA, BLACK SEA, LEVANT and ADRIATIC PORTS, to NATAL EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and CAPE TOWN.)

THE Company's Steamship

Captain Gissogono, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 9th instant. Cargo will not be received on board after P.M. prior to date of sailing.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to SANDER & Co.,

Hongkong, 3rd December, 1896. EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAM

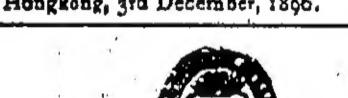
SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED. FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE. (Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND,

TASMANIA, &c.) HE Steamship

"AIRLIE," Captain Eills, will be despatched for the above Ports on THURSDAY, the 10th instant, at

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures a plentiful supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage. This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried. "

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Hongkong, 3rd December, 1806.





THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY,

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON. Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULP, CONTINENTAL and AMERICAN PORTS.

THE Steamship

"KAISAR-I-HIND," Captain C. L. Daniel, carrying Her Majosty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY. &c., on THURSDAY, the 17th December, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports. This steamer connects at Bombay with the S.S. Oriental, leaving that Port for London direct on the 9th January, 1897.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France, and Tes for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into a steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles, and London : other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed

eld Bombay. Parcels will be received at this Office until P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required. Shippers are particularly requested to note

the terms and conditions of the Company's Bills of Lading. For further Particulars, apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent Hongkong, 2rd December, 1806, Hooghoug, 15th September, 1506.

Co-day's Adbertisements.

TO-NIGHT TO-NIGHT! ELITE SKATING RINK. "AND ALL THAT THE WORDS IMPLY,"

VICTORIA HALL DUDDELL STREET. Alternoon Sessions-from 4.30 to 7 P.M.

Evening Sessions-from 8.30 to 12 P.M. NAVAL and MILITARY NIGHTS EVERY WEDNESDAY. The HONGKONG REGIMENTAL BAND

will be in attendance. A FANCY DRESS CARNIVAL will take place on FRIDAY, the 11th December.

PRICES:-Skates and Admission\$1.00 Admission N.B.-The Management reserve the right of refusing Admission.

SAM MARKS. Propriator. Hongkong, 1st December, 1806.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE. LIONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC

"CHARLEY'S AUNT," SATURDAY, the 19th December, 1896, MONDAY, the 21st December, 1896. Hongkong, 3rd December, 1896.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"SUNDA." FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, COLOMB

AND STRAITS. Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their resk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo :-From London, &c., ex S.S. Nubla and Rome. From Madras, ex S.S. Sirsa. Optional Goods will be landed here unless

instructions are given to the contrary before to

A.M. on the 4th instant. Goods not cleared by the 9th Instant, at 4 P.M. will be subject to rent, No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in

ADY CARC Whatever. Ail damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days after the Vessel's arrival here, after which no Claims will be recognised.

H. A. RITCHIE. Superintendent. Hongkong, 3rd December,-1806.

Antimation.

WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

ALL these are selected by our London House, bought direct at first hand, imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply the best growths at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month before use. When required for drinking at once it should be ordered to be decanted at the Dispensary before being sent out.

SHERRY.-Excellent Dinner and After Dinner

Wines of very superior Vintages. All are true Xeres Wines.

CLARET .- Our Clarets, including the lowest Priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine product of the juice of the grape and are not artificially made from raisins and currents, as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.

BRANDY. -All our Brandy is guaranteed to be pure COGNAC, the difference in price being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKEY,-All our Whiskey is of excellent quality and of greater age than most brands in the market. The SCOTCH WHITEEY marked "E" is universally popular, and is pronounced by the best local connoisseurs to be superior to any other brand in the Hongkong market,

We only guarantee our WIMES and SPIRITS to be genuine when bought direct from us in the Colony or from our authorised Agents at the Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD. THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

(...

HONGKOMG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1896, THE CUSTOMS SERVICE. We publish to-day an article the Customs Service, for indebted to the North China Daily In it the writer advocates superannuation as a means of relieving "the congestion in the Service" which it adds, "has for some time been making itself keenly felt." It would, we think, have been more to the credit of our Shanghal contemporary had it backed up its allegations with more impartial evidence and sterner facts than it has been able to marshal. And it might also-as we are glad to note the Mercury has done -have taken into consideration and given expression to the other side of the question, viewing the situation through a Commissioner's or even the I.-G.'s spectacles, 12706 Many a man is, no doubt, kept down in the Service because he has not studied Chinese or has not shown any aptitude for the work, or would, if promoted in the usual way, not make a desirable Commissioner or Superinten-It is to be assumed that Sir ROBERT HART has valid reasons, for "passing both Indoor and Outdoor men and, in view of the success which has attended his administration of the Service It may be contended with reason that the very fact that he has passed them over is a sufficient proof of their unfitness. But our object in calling attention to these matters is based on other than personal grounds We conceive that things have changed in the Far East, especially since the war, that the Customs Service is now more an international institution than it ever was before, and that even if the management of it was as perfect as it could be before the war, it may with advantage be somewhat modified or improved at the present time. We believe it is a fact that there are no rules governing the promotion of members of the Service, that promotion is very uncertain, and that although promotion is often the reward of merit, yet it is not invariably so But, be that as it may, it certainly seems to be within the bounds of reason to assume that no useful purpose can be served by adopting a system of superannuation which would rob the Service of the services of some of its most experienced members and deprive some gentlemen of their means of earning an honest livelihood. Superannuation can be introduced only if it carries with it a pension for both the Indoor and Outdoor men. If not, it would be a very arbitrary measure and its enforcement would probably give—what Sir Reserve is far too shrewd to do-excuse meddlesome diplomats to intervene. Service requires improvement it is, we opine, in the direction of a code of Regulations providing for promotions, dismissals, resignations and pensions

that a practical scheme of reform must be sought, and we venture to suggest, therefore, to those members of the Service who may be urging certain Ministers in Peking to "intervene," that, as they complain of injustice, their proposals should be absolutely free from the taint of clannishness or the desire to convert the Customs Service into a happy hunting-ground for the protégés of whatever Minister may from time to time enjoy the confidence of those whose proud boast it is that they are " near the throne." In any case it is to be devoutly hoped that, before anything is done to alter the fabric of the splendid Service that owes so much to the genius and strict integrity of the great I.-G., the "unquiet spirits" will look well before they leap, for under present circumstances a leap in the dark may be attended with most disastrous results. Rules approved by the Great Powers may be feasible; but a

department could not be tolerated. REUTER'S MESSAGES.

radical change in the administration of the

RUSSIA AND ABYSSINIA

LONDON, December 1st. The Times states that the Russian Mission to Abyssinia has secured great influence with the Neggs and that it will remain in the country as long as the British remain in Egypt.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS AND THE SCARCITY IN INDIA. The Moscow Bourse Gazette strongly protest against the Russian Government organizing relief for the famine, in India.

MR. DE. BUNSEN PROMOTED.

BANGKOK, November 19th. Mr. de Bunsen vesterday received the pleasan intimation that he has been appointed to the First Secretaryship of the British Embassy at Washington, a post which carries with it Minister's rank. This is a distinct promotion upon which Mr. de Bunsan will be heartily congratulated by the host of friends, of all nationalities, whom he has made during his short stay in Bangkok as Chorge d'Affaires, although at the same time there will be the greatest rearet among the British at the loss of so able a repre-

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

sentative of their interests .- Observer.

THE steamer Power will leave for Canton tomorrow at 7 s.m., instead of 8 s.m.

THE Hongkong A. D. C. will appear in "Charley's Aunt" at the Theatre Royal on the 19th and 21st inst.

Owing to the bad state of the weather Mrs. Black's "At Home " As postponed until Tuesday mext, the 8th instant; A LUNATIC got loos a with a keife in the Kans-

gawa prefecture on the 18th ulto., and, before he was captured, he wounded nine persons and set fire to an outhouse.

THE football match that was to be played this afternoon at Happy Valley between teams from the Club and the Royal Artillery has been postponed on account of the weather.

A MERTING of the Sanitary Board was held this afternoon, but twing to pressure on our news columns we are obliged to hold over the report. horse racing, card playing, tennis, and ten-Is ! Nothing of vital importance occurred:

IN the Council Chamber this morning His Excellency the Governor received the new Directors of the Tung Wah Hospital, and in the course of a lengthy speech-which some of them doubtless thought was a lecture—said he would shortly appoint a medical practitioner as Visiting Surgeon, whose sole daty It will be to visit the Hospital, and who will at all times be able to give the Committee the benefit of bli advice. He hoped to be able to secure for the post a Chinesespeaking gentleman, who is well known to and highly respected by the Chinese community of the colony.

In the course of the address delivered at the meeting of the Legislative Council this afternoon His Excellency the Governor announced that he is in receipt of the reports of the Committees appointed to investigate the manage ment of the Tung Wah Hospital and the difficulties connected with overcrowding and insanitary dwellings. H. E. stated that the report of the Insanitary Dwellings Commission will be published, while the views of the Tung Wah Commission are receiving His Excellency's earnest attention, the question being one of "considerable difficulty and delicacy,"

PIRACY continues to be a popular occupation along the Chinese coast. We learn from Shanghai paper that last month a gang consisting of five men and two women, all of strong physique, were captured off the Hsinhwa coast between Amoy and Foochow. The pirates had just robbed a trading junk were shaping for shore when detected by mandatin war-junk and they were captured They have been sent to Foochow, where very probably they will be executed. We reported a case of piracy near Amoy a short time ago, and it is probable that the present prisoners were members of the gang concerned in that affair,

TELEGRAMS have, according to native dealers, been received here containing what the Briti h Government can but consider as bad news respecting? the monthly auctions of opium in Calcutta. It appears that for some time past the revenue derived from the monthly sales of opium, which is a Government monopoly, has shown a falling off in competition and this, we find on inquiry, is attributed to the rapid facteuse in the cultivation of the poppy in China, which has slowly but surely made its mark on the trade in Indian opium. Little by little the importation of Indian opium in China has been falling off and with the increase of the surply of the native drug so has the competition at the Calcutta auctions gradually decreased till at length a marked decline in value of Patna and Birmier, once worth twice their weight in silver in China, has to be recorded, the best Chinese opium now being procurable in large quantities in Chica at Tis. 200 per chest less than the Indian product can possibly be laid down at, At the suctions in Calculta on the 1st instant new Pains fetched only 1187 rupees, new Benarca rupees 1166, and old Patna 1172 rupees per chest, showing a drop of 135 supees per chest on old Paina account and Tog Tupees less for new Benares than it realized in November Chinese, speculators, and those wh bid for them, fairly rule the market in India and they are reported to have said that the decline now recorded is only dron in the ocean as compared with what is in store for the growers and manufacturers in India. as is rumoured, some of the Chinese Vicerous have taken steps to undermine the trade in the Indian drug by greatly reducing the inland charges on the native article to as to reduce its cost to consumers and thereby improve the demand for the best Chinese oplum; and if, as is also alleged, supreme efforts have during the last three years been made to improve the quality of Chinese onlym. then it is to be feared that the custing of Indian oplum from the markets in China is likely to be accomplished sooner than most people have any

WE note that the Editor of Truth is still

"showing up" the grievances of subalterns

non-coms, and the rank and file of the British

Army. About six weeks ago he called attention

to the latest offence against military discipline and good order, which yawning on parade is officially declared to be. For this crime "Labby tells us a man in the 1st Bedfordshire Regiment was lately called to join a squad of evil-doors, who were being punished for dirtiness, by having to clean the equipment of men who were In hospital. Now, surely it was quite impudent enough for the bellicose Editor of Truth to put such a statement in print without adding fuel to the fire by telling his numerous readers that when he has seen our friend Tommy Atkins being inspected on parade, and comporting himself as much like a wooden image as possible—while an officer locks into the condition of his buttons, the way he has brushed his hair, and other details—he has often wondered what would happen if Mr. Atkins were to success at the critical moment. Now, however, readers of Truth know, and al who reed this paragraph know. It may be contended that yawning is a matter more easily controlled than successing; but opinions differ on this gravest of grave questions, and as far as the "red coat" is concerned the decision sests entirely with the inspecting officer, But let us pass from our London contemporary's remarks about the rank and file and see what he has to say about the treatment of subalterns. We find amongst the summary of news culled from our Canadian exchanges and published in this fournal on the 1st instant a telegram dated London, Nevember oth, setting forth that "Truth has published details of another of those scandals which threaten to destroy the tradition that the British officer is a gentleman, It appears that just before the 20th Hussars went to India's new-joined subaltern was taken by his brother officers to a riding school and put on a bare-back horse. The animal was made to gallop and whipped until the subaltern fell, injuring his knee. He became insensible, after which he was on the sick list for weeks. The object of this treatment, it is stated, was to drive the subaltern out of the regiment. When the latter reached India it is said these practices were kept up. The subsitern was made to salaam to this servant, jump into bonfires with his pyjamas on, etc, all in order to disgrace the young officer in the eyes of the natives." Truth, it is added, demands that the offensive formentors of this hapless subaltern be tried by court-martial, but, says the Editor characteristically," "I do not expect Lord Wolseley, Commander-in-Chief, to maintain the honour of the Queen's uniform." It would appear from this that Truik's exposé has created quite a sensation in London, but it would be unfair to jump to conclusions. We have yet to hear from "the other side." It may be added, though, that I officers are guilty of such conduct they ought to be court-martialise and severely punished as a

warning to others. They should be reminded

that what we want in the Army are men who

take more interest in their profession than in

THE Scoul Independent on and after January 1st | Colonial Revenue, 45 a contribution for the will be issued in separate English and native editions instead of one mixed edition as at present. We wish our enterprising little contemporary every success:

THE British Government having informed the Government of France that it will have great pleasure in participating in the International Exhibition to be held in Paris in 1900, Mr Joseph Chambarlain, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, has addressed a circular despatch to the Governors of the colonies, including Hongkong, in which he desires the various Chiefs of the Executive to Inform him by telegraph of the probable requirements of the dependencies under their control. In consequence of this the Colonial Secretary has requested, by advertisement, all intending exhibitors in Hongkong to communicate with him before the 31st instant.

THE steamer Kobs Maru, according to the Weekly Box of Curtos of the arst ultimo, had a narrow escape from a serious collision when leaving Shanghai for Yokohama on a recent trip. It appears that the steamer was leaving the wharf under the "slow" bell, and, when swinging in the stream, H.M.S. Grafion came down the river at a 13-knot gait and rushed between the Kobe Mary and a smaller vessel. The 'man-of-war was not seen until her bow, was on the Kobe's starboard quarter, and a collision appeared imminent. Capt. Ekstrand, however, kept his engines going, starboarded his helm and just got his vessel out of the contents way by a few yards. The coolness of Capt. Ekstrand | dence :was very warmly praised by his passengers who fully scalled the danger of their vessel being sunk. The journal quoted goes on to say that the warship's navigator intended taking advantage of the merchant skipper's knowledge as pilot, for when the Grafton got into shoul water she stopped and followed the Kobe Maru until the Woosung Bar was crossed.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held this afternoon. There were present His Excellency the Governor Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G. (President); Hon. J. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), Hon. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), Hon. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works), Hon. M. Thomson (Acting Colonial Treasurer), Hon-R. M. Rumsey, R.N. (Harbour Master); th Hon. C. P. Chater, Hon. T. H. Whitehead Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Hon. E. R. Belllios C.M.G., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Hon. Wei Yuk, unofficial members, and Major-General Black, and Mr. F. J. Badeley, Acting Clerk of Councils.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

THE GAP ROCK LIGHT CORRESPONDENCE

OURSTION. His Excell incy laid on the table correspondence regarding the abolition of the Gap Rock Lighthouse rate. He said that late last night he received a vigorous protest against the decision arrived at by the unofficial members from his honourable friend Mr. Whitehead, in his usual uncompromising style. As far as he was himself concerned the charge brought against him o entering into private correspondence wit unofficial members was totally without grounds They knew that if a statement or misstatement was given 34 hours' start, it could not be overtaken. His communication with the unofficial members was perfectly public and could be plantered over the walls of Hongkong. He left the unofficial members to protect themselves sgainst the charge and he would like to see them consult their constituents on the matter. His communication was perfectly unconfidential and there was no intintion on the par of the Government to conceal anything.

Dr. Ho Kai said the letter his Excellency had spoken of was likely to cast a slur on the whole of the Council and on Individual members, and he wished to give the public a true statement of affairs in the matter. The Governor had referred the case to the unofficial members in the usual way, but he would not say whether he thought this practice wise not. A meeting of the unofficial members was held, but it was not an open meeting and, he had, always advocated publicity in such affairs. That would obviate misunder standing and misrepresentation. He always consulted the leading Chinese on important matters. However, he never regarded the meeting ir question as a secret conclave and he did not treat the letter he received as "confidential," although it was so marked. He emphatically protested against any aspersions cast on his colleagues as Mr. Whitehead had done.

Mr. Chater said he could inform the Council that there was no private intercourse whatever between the Governor and himself, and he could state most emphatically that every communication he had from the Governor or Colonia Secretary was immediately placed before his

Mr. Whitehead said that if he had misrepresented or made any misstatements it was unintentional and he was very sorry for it.

The Colonial Secretary laid on the table Financial Minutes Nov. 11 to 25 and it was agreed that they be referred to the Finance Committees. He sise brought up the report of the Figance Committee, No. 4.

The following documents were laid on th (a.) Correspondence respecting the abolition

(b.) Report of the Director of the Observatory (c.) Report of Po Leung Kuk Society for year ending gist December, 1895;

of the Gan Rock Lighthouse rates

(d.) Report of progress of Public Works during the first half-year of 1Po6; (s.) Report of progress of the Tai-ping-shan Improvement Works.

GAP ROCK LIGHT DUES. following question ;- "Will the Government inform the Council whether the Police Department continues to furnish the Imperial Chinese | said :-Maritime Customs information concerning permits issued for the expert from the colony of arms and ammunition? The Colonial Secretary replied in the negative,

SANITARY AFFAIRS. The Colonial Secretary stated that a new Bye-law regarding the cleansing and whitewashing of premises had met with the approval of the Sanitary Board. Mr. Chater said it was a move in the right

direction, but he objected to people having to imewash their premises twice a year. He thought once was enough. Mr. Cooper said that it (was highly necessary

that the two helf-yearly washes should be given. THE 1797 ESTIMATES. His Excellency the Governor faid the Estimates for 1807 on the table and in so doing delivered his address, which is published in

another part of this issue." FIRST READINGS. The following Bills passed the first reading !-- Defence of the Colony. (b.) An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceed-

ing two millions three hundred and fifty-nine thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine dollars to the Public Service of the Year 1897. (c.) 'An Ordinanco to declare and amend the

Law of Partnerable. (d) An Ordinance to further amend The Post Office Ordinance, 1887.

(e.) An Ordinance to provide for compensation being paid to Pawnbrokers in certain cases. (f.) An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Probates and Letters of Administration in this Colony.

In moving the first reading of the first Bill the Acting Attorney-General delivered a long speech on the necessity for contributing well towards Imperial Defence and he said he hoped that the unofficial members would not oppose the measure.

Mr. Whitehead asked that they should be allowed time first to receive a reply from the Secretary of State to their memorandum on the

ADJOURNMENT. His Excellency-The Council stands adourned till Monday next.

TINANCE COMMITTEE. The Council afterwards went into Finance Committee. The report of the proceedings is crowded out of this issue,

THE GAP ROCK LIGHT DURS.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead has forwarded to us for publication the following correspon-

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF COUNCIL Government House.

Hongkong, 12th November, 1896. Sir,-I have the boncur to forward for the consideration of your colleagues, the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, the enclosed copy of a letter from the Chamber of Commerce suggesting that the Gap Rock Lighthouse rate, which was first imposed in 1800, should be now abolished in accordance with my predecessor's promise, which, however, he stated could not be

binding on his successor. The rate if continued is culmated to yield during the coming year about \$65,000, and if this amount is withdrawn from the estimate of revenue for 1897 the latter will be exceeded by the estimated expenditure. It is therefore necessary either that the rate should continue to be lavied, or that the loss which would be entailed by its abolition should be made good from some other source of revenue.

I shall therefore be greatly obliged if you will be so good as to conier with your colleagues on the matter, and acquaint me with your and their views as to whether it is preferable to continue to levy light dues generally as at present (lacinding the Gap Rock rate), or to device some alternative source of revenue in order to make good the deficiency which the abolition of light dues would entail.

In the event of your recommending that light dues should be abolished, I shall be glad to be favoured with your valuable advice as to the method by which you consider the deficit caused by such abolition may be met.-I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON The Honourable the Senior Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, &c., &c., &c.

(Enclosure.) THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO THE COLONIAL SICRETARY. Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,

31st July, 1896. Sir,-This Chamber, naturally regardful of any question bearing on the prosperity of the port, is anxious to see that no impost levied for a special object should be suffered thereafter to become a permanent charge on the shipping

requesting it. When in reply to a question put by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead in the Legislative Council on the 8th just, the fact was elicited that the total sum received as the proceeds of the special Gap Rock Lighthouse rate from 1889 (date of levy) to the 30th June last was \$358 521, while the amount expended during the same period for construction of lighthouse, laying of cable, and maintenance was \$315,935, showing a balance of \$42,576 in hand, my Committee felt that the time had strived to ask the Government to redeem the pledge made by Sir William Des Voeux to abolish the extra tax of one and a half

cents per ton on shipping. It may perhaps be useful to quote, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, the words used by his predecessor at the meeting of Connell on the 11th December, 1889, when the Ordinance authorising this special addition to the light dues was passed. The following question asked by Mr. Mackwan, the then nominos of this Chamber, and the reply of Sir William Dea Vœux are taken from the shorthand report:-

"Mr. MacEwen-The discussion generally skes piace on the second reading of Bills, but in a matter of this kind it would be satisfactory to know the length of time it is intended to levy this increase, b cause, if I recollect correctly, was understood that the tax would only be levied in order to pay for the actual cost of the Lighthouse and then be withdrawn, -Is that the understanding? "His Excellency-Most distinctly. The cent

will not raise \$30,000, and I think we will be very lucky if we get off for \$120,000. It will be called the Gap Rock Lighthouse rate, and it will involve the special sanction of the Legislative Council, and it will naturally cease when the Gap Rock Lighthouse is paid off. As it is very inconvenient to levy for a broken period of the year. I think, unless there's strong reason to the contrary, it would be advisable to have a meeting again before the 1st January to pass this Bill If you prefer a meeting at a later date I am quite willing to agree to that. However, as the Connell has already practically agreed to this matter. there may be no objection to suspend the Standing Orders, and pass the Bill through all the siages to-day."

The Bill was passed there and then, and, in The Hon. T. H. Whitehead asked the reply to a request by Mr. Ryrie that Mr. Mac-Ewen's question and the isply thereto should be specially noted, Sir William Das Vooux further

> "His Excellency-Of course this will be recorded, and I think it will be just as well to mention in the minutes that Mr. MacEwen drew attention to the matter, and that I said Past this extra rate was intended by me to be distinctly a payment for the Gap Rock Librations and nothing else. Of course, when Mr. Rytle talks of a promise, I must say it is absolutely impossible for me to bind my successor about anything. All I can say is that I have not the slightest intention to ar ply the rate for any other purpose. If a necessity arose for doing so, I should come to the Board and inform it of the

From those extracts it will be clear to his Excellence the Governor that Sir William Des Vœux made an explicit pledge, so far as he was concerned, that when the purpose for which this Special Gap Rock Lighthouse rate was leviedhad been achieved the impost would cease. This being the case beyond all cavil my Committee Confidently appeal to the Governor to carry out the expressed intentions of his predecessor in (a.) An Ordinance to appropriate a percentage | office, feeling sure that bis Macellendy's sense of seventeen and a half you exatent of the of Incide will hind him to the fulfilment of the

pledge given to the representative of this Chamber.

than sufficient to provide for the upkeep and maintenance of all the lights, and the Committee therefore has the less besitation in praying for the abolition of the special Gap Rock Lighthouse

Trusting that his Excellency will see his way to perform the pledge made by his predecessor without undue delay.- I have the honour to be, sir, you most obedient servant, R. CHATTERTON WILCOX.

Secretary. Secretary.

THE SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER TO THE

Hongkong, 27th November, 1896. Sir.-With reference to your Excellency's despatches Nor. 138 and 141 G., of the 12th and 19th last, respectively, I have the honour to inform you that the draft estimates for 1807 were duly forwarded to the unofficial members of the Legislative Council for their perusal.

The question of the abelition of the Gap Rock Lighthouse rate was again discussed by them at a meeting h, id on the 25th inst., all being present, with the exception of Mr. Bell-Irving, who had left the colony.

We are unanimous in considering that it is expedient for your Excellency to redeem the pledge given by your predecessor to the effect that this special rate should cease as soon as the cost of the light had been defrayed.

revenue resultant on its abolition. Messis. Ho Kal, Belilios, Wei Yuk, and myself are of opinion that a fixed rate of 22 cents per ton should in future be imposed as light dues on all shipping entering the harbour, and in this we are joined by Mr. Bell-Irving, who addressed a letter to me on the subject immediately before his departure, Mr. Whitehead does not concur in this proposal and is addressing your Excellency directly

on the subject.-I am, &c., &c., (Signed) C. P. CHATER. His Excellency Sir Wm. Robinson, K.C.M.G.,

Governor, Hongkong.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD TO THE GOVERNOR. Hongkong, and December, 1806. Excellency with reference to your communication to the unofficial members of Council, made through the senior member, on the subject of on the rat of October last. the Gap Rock Light dues, under date the 12th November. Mr. Chater in his letter in reply, dated the 27th ulto., has informed you of my opinions expressed by him on behalf of his other I the honour to be, your most obedient servant, colleagues in the Council on the subject in question. I dissent so strongly, both as to the pro- His Excellency Sir Wm. Robinson, K.C.M.G., cedure adopted by your Excellency in bringing the matter before the members of Council privately, and on the merits of the question, and I deem it of such importance to the public, that I propose to now publish the whole correspon-

dence, and to refer the subject to the Secretary of State. I take leave to call your Excellency's attention

in the first piece to the fact that although the letter of the Chamber of Commerce, calling the attention of the Government to the fact that the time 'had arrived for the abolition of the Gan Rock Light dues, was dated the arst July in the second place that it was not until the 10th November that the Estimates for the year 1897 were circulated to members, and that they could no suggestion of any intention on the part of the Government to relieve the trade of the colony of the burden imposed on accomplished, or any proposals for any alter-

I beg, further, most respectfully to protest no opportunity of hearing the reasons put times to me and to my successors in office. forward by the Government in support of their views, and the unofficial members must be deprived of the apportunity of learning the opinions on the subject of those they are supposed i to represent, whatever it may be. The continuance of such methods must render the proceedings of the Council pro forma, and I the Colony."

submit they are unconstitutional.

Estimates until the very last month in the year.

I desire that the point and my complaint may tary of State for the Colonies, and that his special question which ought to be as publicly and as settle the much-vexed question of the Military | business proceeded much as usual. Dr. Yersin | ger traffic amounting to 1,986. thoroughly ventilated as possible, and to the Contribution. consideration of which and of the possible consemences of the abolition or retention of the tax. the greatest length of time should be given. The most pressing on the order paper, is the taking steps to secure a supply of the prepara- of Gan Rock Lighthouse will be laid on the their vested interests. Chamber of Commerce, directly representing the Appropriation Bill for 1897. From the Draft tion. Finally, I cannot dismiss the subject of Council table. be overruled by a secret conclave of gentlemen. 1897 is estimated to yield \$2,438,823. This one only of whom, Mr. Bell-Irving, directly estimate has been arrived at with due caulton; represents the mercantile and shipping world, It is less than the actual revenue for 1805 and and who in fact was absent from the meeting of the probable total for the current-year, and I settled. The other unofficial members are large realised. The various items do not, I think, land owners or largely interested in land and call for any special remark at this stage. The property, and only indirectly interested in the I total expenditure for 1807 is estimated at trade and freedom of the port. This is not a \$2,769,083, but of this \$368,000 is chargeable to by the Sanitary Board with a view to the pre- . The criminal statistics are highly satisfactory. question which should be left to the unofficial the Luan. The estimated sum chargeable to members to settle in private, and without a full current revenue is therefore \$2,401,083, or statement in public of their reasons and a full \$37.740 less than the estimated revenue." consideration and discussion of all possible alternatives. There may be a discussion in open | compared with the Estimates for 1806, appear Council, and speeches may be made, but there will be no bona fide debate. There cannot be, when the conclusion has been pre-arranged,

As to the question of the abolition of the Gap Rock Light dues, I am distinctly of opinion that they ought to be abolished. They were imposed for a temporary purpose which has been effected. and, more, they have left a considerable credit halance in hand. There should be no tax of Any kind on shipping, no matter how slight or

for whatever purpose. Hongkong was established as a free post. It has attained its present The lax of one cent per ton levied prior to | posit on because it has been a free port. It can 1889, and still imposed, on shipping yields more only maintain its position by remaining an entirely and an absolutely free port. The landowners, the merchants, the traders, the rrolessional men, all who are making their livelihood in Hongkong, owe their prosperity to the presence of the shipping. A free port opened on the neighbouring coast would draw away a large portion of our shipping, and the establishment of such a port has been and is now in contemplation. The saidents in Hongkong should be willing to pay a "bonus," if it were needful, to encourage ships and steamers to this port. The To Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial Light dues may be a mere trifle in themselves, but in these days of keen competition and careful calculation of expenses they have to be taken into account. It is the principle of freedom I contend for. I cordially support the request of the Chamber of Commerce for the abolition of the Gap Rock Light dues, and object to the impost of the same dues under another name. I am not satisfied that it is necessary to substitute some other source of revenue, but if additional taxation is an absolute necessity, there are, it seems to me, other available sources of income. House property more than any other interest derives its value from the shipping, the tess for spirit licences might be increased or doubled, and there are considerations arising out of the Oplum Farm and eplum, and suggestions might be made in connection therewith for raising any required addition to the revenue. Had the question been referred to the Finance Committee of Council within a reasonable period of the date on which the Chamber As regards the covering of the deficit in the of Commerce brought it to the notice of Government there would have been adequate time for its examination and discussion, and the expenditure or economy in the cost of the administration could have been simultaneously considered, but now in the last days of the year the Estimates must be hurried through without delay.

I respectfully protest against this method of bringing forward important questions for debate at the latest possible moment. I further protest against secret confabulations between the unofficial members of Council on public questions. and at the reduction of the debates in Council to a mere pro forma discussion on resolutions already arrived at.

I may be permitted to point out that in the Sir -I have the honour to address your. Straits Settlements, with their enormous area and extensive interests, the Government there laid the Estimates for 1807 on the Council table

I have the honour to request that this my protest may be forwarded at your Excellency's earliest convenience to the Right Honourable intention to do so, and of my dissent from the I the Secretary of State for the Colonies.-I have T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Governor, Hongkong.

THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

His Excellency the Governor delivered the following address at the meeting of the Legislative Council this afternoon :--Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative

Council-The time having arrived when it is usual to convene the Legislative Council for the purpose of discharging those important duties which last, it was not until the 12th alto, that any annually devolve upon it, I gladly resort to you step appears to have been taken with a ylew for assistance and advice. The pleasure of to the consideration of the question. I note meeting you again is enhanced by the satisfactory state of public affairs, especially as regards the finances of the Colony.

NEW MEMBERS.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL.

THE MILITARY MULCT. "An Ordinance to appropriate a Percentage of I the week ending oth May. During the whole of of the Empire. During the nine months ending seventeen and a half per centum of the Colonial | this period the Sanitary Board and its staff, ably | 30th September | last, over 7,000 ships of

spondence and negotiations with which you are I the plague were untiring in their efforts, and they I registered tonnage, and conveying to and from be referred to the Right Honourable the Secre- familiar, and it is introduced under instructions | deserve great credit for their zeal and energy, | the Colony 1,026,469 passengers. from the Secretary of State. I may mention It is perhaps too much to hope that the disease I is addition to these, \$3,000 trading junks attention may be directed to this, that if such a | that the Unofficial Members have recently for- | will not again visit this Colony, and we must, I | carried 3,300,338 tons of cargo in and out, and course of procedure is permissible at any time - warded a memorial praying that the contribution | fear, be prepared for its re-appearance in solte | conveyed 161,991 passengers. and I do not say that within limits it is not- may be again fixed at the former figure of of every effort to prevent it. It is satisfactory to Compared with the same period of 1805 this this question of the Gap Rock Light dues is the £40,000. I can, however, hold out no hope that frecord that though many of the wealthier means an increase of 412 European constructed very last that should be dealt with in that way, this request of the Unofficial Members will be Chinese sent their wives and families to the vessels, carrying 233,675 more tons of cargo, It is a question affecting the freedom of the port, I acceded to. I have no option therefore but to mainland, there was no general exedus of the and an increase of over 8,600 junks with 125,638 affecting directly every merchant and trader, a | ask you to pass this Bill into law, and so finally

THE APPROPRIATION BILL. The next item of importance, and indeed the

under the following heads :-r. Public Works Extraordinary \$170,800 2. Military Expenditure, 30,079 4. Public Works Recurrent, 23,300 6. Public Debt, #1,447 7. Sanitary Department,..... S. Medical Department,

partly to an increase of \$0,000 in the amount set apart for "Barrack Services," chiefly to increased "(estimated) revenue. Only \$61,000 of the estimated total Military Expenditure is included in the Appropriation Bill, viz, \$19 000 for Barrack Services and \$12,000 for the Volunteers, as the bill to which? I have already referred and which is designed purposely to remove the question of voting the defence contribution from the arena of yearly debate, will provide for the appropriation of 172 per cent. of the revenue, less premia on land sales, to meet that contribution. The increase under the Item of Public Works Recurrent is accounted for chiefly by the cost of maintaining the new waterworks at Shaukiwan and Aberdeen and increased cost of .maintenance of roads and bridges, and of the repairs to buildings which will probably be necessary during next year. The additional charge on account of the Public Debt is due to the increase in the contribution to the Sloking fund, which commenced only in October last. THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

The large increase in the cost of the Sanitary Department calls for some special explanation. It has been found that the present staff o inspectors is not sufficient to provide for the Inspection of the Chinese houses with the freduency and regularity which are necessary. The Sanitary Board has accordingly recommended, and the Secretary of State has sanctioned, the appointment of two more inspectors of nuisances, with the necessary additional interpreters and foremen of street cleausers. The salaries for these new appointments, with various stipulated increments in the pay of other officers, and the salary of a temporary clerk who was appointed in April, 1805, and whose salary does not appear in the 1806 Estimates, actounts for the increase to personal emoluments, while the increase under "other charges" is principally due to the higher figures at which the scavenging contracts are let.

THE POST OFFICE. The increase under the heading "Post Office is due entirely to estimated increase in transit charges, or the sum which this Colony has to pay for the conveyance of its mail matter. This increase need cause no alarm; on the other hand it is a matter of congratulation, for it indicates an estimated expansion of business and consequent increase of profit. MEDICAL, RTC.

The increase in the cost of the Medical Departments is owing to the appointment of an Assistant Surgeon in place of the Medical Officer of the Gaol at a bloker salary; to the appointment of an additional Sister, and to well-deserved increases in the pay of Dr. Lowson and the Analyst and Assistant Analyst, and a few minor appointments, including the Chinese staff for the new Isolation Hospital.

 Economies have been effected as opportunity offered, on the lines suggested by the Retrenchment Committee, but such opportunities have been rare.

The rate of exchange for the Estimates for 1897 has been taken at 2/1, the same rate as was taken for 1896, which may be regarded as a safe rate, so far as the word "safe" can be applied to exchange.

If any further information is desired with regard to the Estimates it will be furnished in Finance Committee or when the Council is in Committee on the Bill. I have now only to ask: you, gentlemen, to vote the sum necessary to defray the charges for the coming year. THE CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

I will now make a few remarks upon the general condition of the Colony, financially and otherwise.

The total estimated revenue for 1806 was Before proceeding to deal with that and other 1 \$2,288,366. Of this sum \$2,120,680 had been interesting matters, I have to express the collected up to the end of October, and the total gratification which it affords me, and which I am | revenue will probably be about \$2,495,000, shipping for a special purpose long since sure you all share, to welcome the presence at | while the total expenditure chargeable to revenue this table of His Excellency Major-General will be about \$2,445,000, leaving a surplus of native measure. I beg most respectfully to Black and Mr. Wei A-Yuk, as Official and Revenue over Expenditure of some \$50,000. The submit that the delay in the preparation and | Unofficial Members respectively of this Council. | Increase in receipts over the amount which was publication of the Estimates, and especially the The course of events which brought about this sestimated is principally due to premis on Land delay in taking action on the Chamber of Com- change in the constitution of the Legislative | Sales, which have yielded already over \$250,000 merce letter of the 31st July, is most injurious | Council is still fresh in your memory, as against an estimated total for the whole year to the public interests, and prevents any proper I shall not refer to them in detail, but content of \$70,000. There are also noticeable increases and adequate consideration of the important myself with remarking that as His Excellency In the receipts up to the great October, under the questions involved, either by the responsible the General Officer Commanding is to ad- | headings "Light Dues," "Licences and Internal members of Council or by the public who are I minister the Government during the absence at I Revenue not otherwise specified," and "Post directly interested. The Estimates will be laid I any time of the Governor, it is obviously ad- Office," over the estimated receipts up to that upon the Council table to-morrow for the first | vanisageous to the Colony that he should occupy | date. The principal items of unforeseen time, and will then only become known to the I a seat in the Legislative Council, while the ap- | expenditure, which were not provided for in community generally. I understand that they pointment of Mr. Wei A-Yok, a resident highly the Estimates for 1806, are \$20,000 for a new must be passed before the end of the month, and respected in Hongkong, will, it is hoped, bring floating engine for the Fire Brigade, and nearly there is now no time left for their proper and the Government into still closer touch with the \$70,000 for expenses incurred in connection with effective consideration. I feel it my duty to Chinese community, which forms such an im- the repression of the plague. Turning now to formally protest against the holding back of the portant element in the population of the Colony, the question of the health and sanitation of the Colony, the present year will be a memorable The constitution of the Executive Council has I one owing to the unfortunate recurrence of the against the method recently adopted by the also undergone, a change, which was recom- disease known as bubould plague, which was so Government of privately consulting the unofficial | mended by me and approved by the Secretary | disastrous in 1894. The outbreak commenced members of Councilon matters the consideration of State. It now consists of two Unofficial early in the year, the disease was at its worst of which ought properly and must ultimately be Members, Mr. Chater and Mr. Bell-Irving, in stage in April and May, and was not finally brought before the Council at its public sittings, addition to the Official Members who previously stamped out out till the end of September. The and of obtaining from them, writing through the composed it. You will agree with me in the total number of cases brought to notice was senior member, opinions on matters on which opinion that the Colony is to be congratulated 1,204, of which 1,007 ended fatally. The subsequently they are called on to vote in open on this reconstruction, which has attengthened | Europeans attacked numbered 15, of whom 7 Council Such consultations must lend to sender | the Executive by the addition of two able ad- including two 'soldiers and one inspector of the meetings of Council farcical. There can be | visers, whose experience, especially on matters | nuisances, succumbed to the disease. Sister no real consideration or discussion, all being cut affecting the commercial welfare of Hongkong, Catherine, one of the two sisters who were and dried beforehand. The public may have cannot fall to be of the highest value at all engaged to nursing at the Plague Hospital, was also attacked by the disease, but fortunately recovered. The largest number of fresh cases

Turning now to the orders of the day, the first in one week was 100, from the 23rd to 30th May, rial German Nave, whose services were kindly cost of the Lighthouse had been defrayed. benefit in dealing with this terrible disease. and in that opinion I concur. Many useful measures have been undertaken

The increase is Military Expenditure is due tory the less of life was not great. Improvements have been made in the condition of the Tungwah Hospital. The desirability of reforming that losultation has formed the subject of enquiry and report by a Commission. I am in postession of their views on the matter and am devoting my earnest attention to the question, which is one of considerable difficulty and delicacy.

THE SANITARY BOARD AND PUBLIC WORKS.

With regard to the constitution of the Sanitary

Board I regret that I am not yet in possession of the Secretary of State's final decision, which. however. I hope to receive shortly. At regards Public Works, the extension of the Wongne! chong Recreation Ground has been undertaken and is progressing. The project includes the widening and improving of the roads and an addition to the Recreation Ground of about 7 acres. The extension of the Gaol has been proceeded with and accommodation has been provided within the Gaol compound for a prison for females, instead of the unsuitable house in Wyndham Street bltherto rented for that purpose. The provision of an adequate supply of water to the City of Victoria has received my

careful attention, and projects have been prepared for an ultimate supply of 4,000,000 gallons a day throughout the year. The present state of the water supply and particulars of the proposed extensions have been dealt with in an able and elaborate report by the Director of Public Works, which has already been laid before you (Sessional Paper 19/1896). That report has been referred to Mr. Osbert Chadwick, who concurs in the proposals contained therein, Secretary of State has communicated to me his approval of the scheme, and contracts have been entered into, with the approval of this Council for the commencement of the works. The water works for Kowloon have also been completed and a constant supply is now available over the southern portion of that peninsula. The new system of signalling the approach of vessels has been completed in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee appointed in 1803. The statue of the Queen in commemoration of Her Most Gracious Majesty's Jubilee has been erected on the Praya Reclamation and was unveiled by me on the 28th May, smidst general rejoldings and loyal demonstrations. With respect to Talpingshan, considerable progress has been made with the demolition of insanitary dwellings, and the necessary works for relaying out the resumed area for building purposes, Contracts have been entered into for dealing with about one-half of the resumed area, and works in connection with the greater part of the remainder will shortly be commenced. A report fon the subject will be laid on the table, to which I direct your attention, as the anticipations which I was led to form this time last year have not been fulfilled. As to the Praya Reclamation Works, though difficulties have arisen in connection with the rapid completion of certain pertions, fair progress has been made. The Marine Lot-holders have, in several instances, obtained permission to enter into possession of their portions, and fine buildings are in course of erection on some of the land reclaimed. In addition to the foregoing works, the condition of the villages has not been overlooked, and works of drainage, water supply, and general improvements have been completed. whilst others are in hand in Shankiwan, Aberdeen, Mong-kok-tsui and Tai-kok-tsui. The requirements of the increasing population of the Hill District have not been lost sight of, and it is proposed at an early date to commence the construction of an improved road from near Victoria Gap to the Mount Kellet Road. The increasing requirements of the Colony in the matter of Government Offices and the question of providing new offices and concentrating them, so far as possible, under one roof, appeared to me to call for a special enquiry, I referred the matter accordingly to a Committee, whose report I have just, received. That report

will be published. With respect to education, regret to say that the experiences of the year have been somewhat unfortunate. The recur rence of the plague, and the measures taken to prevent overcrowding, together with the rise is house rents resulting from those measures, caused a large number of Chinese, as I have already said, to send their women and children out of the Colony. The attendance at schools by Chinese children, and more particularly girls! schools, decreased considerably; the decrease amounting to probably 30 per cent, of their normal attendance. The attendance at five Chinese schools cessed entirely and the schools had to be closed, but as three new schools have been opened in places unaffected by plague and its consequences, the total number of schools under the Education Department is 119 as compared with 121 in 1805. The above unsatisfactory experiences have been confined almost entirely to schools attended by the poorer classes of the native population. The other schools, especially those attended by non-Chinese children, have for the most part retained their normal attendance. Efforts are being made to increase the number of schools offering English teaching to natives, but only one school of this description could be opened during the present year. Steps have been taken, however, to improve the teaching of English at Queen's

SELIPPING AFFAIRS. With regard to shipping, Hongkong continues Garrison, whose services were kindly lent, and the Harbour Office, bringing and taking away

College, and in order to allow more time for that

purpose, the purely Chinese branch of that

establishment has been entirely abolished.

population such as occurred in 1894, and tons of cargo, and a total increase in the passen-

toxin for the treatment of the plague, and I am | Dues levied to cover the cost and maintenance

able assistance throughout in treating the result from this abolition five of the six Unofficial

CRIMINAL STATISTICS. vention of overcrowding and for the Improve- Comparing the number of cases under various Approach given by the Director of the Observar, came was the same for both periods,

THE PO LEUNG KUK.

The new Home of the Po Leung Kuk, or Society for the Protection of Women and Girls, Government contributed towards the cost of its election a sum of \$20, :co. The Society has already done good work, and it is hoped but to carry them on more efficiently. It gives me pleasure at all times to ald the Chinese community of this Colony in charitable work, such as that of protecting those who are not able to protect themselves, and I shall always be ready to give them what assistance lies in my power to render such work as thorough as possible.

From the foregoing remarks, gentlemen, you will gather that on the whole the condition of the Colony, socially, politically, and financially, is very satisfactory. We have had during the term of my Government two visitations of plague. We have had strikes, several typhoons, and on one occasion a vast and unparalleled exodus of people, but Hongkong has held its own with wenderful vitality. Government has not harassed the community with unnecessary or vexatious legislation. The law has been enforced whenever it was necessary, but the community, speaking generally, is happily a law-abiding one. The revenue has increased and is increasing with the growth of population, and the only drawback to a wider and more extensive outlook is the limited area of the Colony Itself.

In conclusion, gentlemen, you will believe me when I say that as long as I remain here-and for how much longer that may be I cannot tell -I shall continue to co-operate with you in any measures having for their object the public good. pray that your deliberations under the blessing of God may conduce not only to the honous of Her Majesty The Queen, but to the increased bappiness and welfare of the entire community of this Her Majesty's possession in the Far

SUPERANNUATION IN THE

CUSTOMS SERVICE. Since the late war with Japan, the Customs Service has become, in a greater degree than before, an institution whose welfare and good management are matters of international importance. Being, as it is, the only sound security for recent and past loans, the only negotiable asset that China has been able to place against her heavy liabilities, its position has become thereby more secured and, at the same time, more open to criticism by all interested parties. Especially, therefore, does it behave England to see that the counsels and control of the Service be wisely ordered and effectively carried out : for not only does England represent a large percentage of China's creditors, but, on account of her preponderating influence in trade, it is evidently her duty to obtain for those interests the leading voice and guiding hand in the Service's administration. That this was the view of English statesmen was evident in the late loan negotiations; as evident, in fact, as the eagerness displayed by the Franco-Russian alliance to oust British interests from their present position. It will not be well, however, if England rests content with having averted the dangers which threatened at that juncture: it remains for her to ensure such an administration at the Foreign Inspectorate, both now and hereafter, as shall disarm the hostile criticism of other bondholders: That there has been room for such criticism at various times, and especially during the late war, few will deny. The Service is a purely international institu-

respect, vis., that whereas heretolore its sevenue was mortaged to a comparatively small exient, there is now, practically speaking, a lien on the whole security; and this lien is not likely to be xemoved so long as the Chinese system of government remains what it is. This state of affairs naturally affects the respective positions of the mostagees, the Chinese Government, and the Inspectorate-General, and would now justify an interference in control which formerly would have been impossible. For this reason it behaves England, as the most interested party, to aim at placing the Administration upon the soundest, most prosperous, and most permament footing possible. In saying this we do not mean to detract one lots from the high praise due to the present Inspector-General, nor to criticise for one moment his wonderful capacity THE Agents (Messrs. Dodwell, Carilli & Co.) for organisation and effective control. The Inform us that the Northern Pacific Steamship service, as it is; is of his making; and it stands | Co.'s steamer Victoria, from Tacoms, Wash. forth perhaps the most wonderful monument to servived at Shanghai yesterday morning, and left the genius and labour of one man which the for this port this morning, being due here about century has produced. It will require the larger | the 5th inst.

tion, and in its administration lies the difficult

task of serving many masters. But recent

events have greatly affected its position in one

life-work of Sir Robert- Hart, let the present day honour him as it may. But he-none better-is aware that in the administration of his Service He grave difficulties and serious defects. Its internal finances have been for many years in an unsatisfactory state owing partly to increased expenditure, and partly to the depreciation of Devawongse n its position. Then, too, in the uncertainty which has beset, and which still besets, the question of its continuity on existing lines, there lies Ravennastesmer, for Europe a grave source of danger. That the present L.-G. | Pers. has virtually controlled the entire Inspectorate been of the greatest good to Chine during that | Michael Jebsen.....

perspective of posterily to do full justice to the

period, but there is no doubt that much insecu- Quarta Revenues as a contribution for the Defence of assisted by members of the Police and of the European construction entered and cleared at lity arises from the fact that at this moment he cannot point to any one man, or body of man. This Bill is the outcome of lengthy corre- all those connected with the work of suppressing | cargoes amounting to nearly 55 per cent, of their | trained and ready to carry on his work. Autocracy, like many other good things, has its disadvantages. But, let us not forget that Sir Robert Hart has always laboured under the difficulty of serving many masters, and whatever defects we may observe in the present system are probably defects which he has been unable, however willing, to remove. 'It is one thing to advise - the Tsungli Yames and another to ensure the adoption of advice; in this particular, the mortgagees of China's revenue have a distinct advantage over Sir and Dr. Kitasato, whose names and attainments A correspondence with the Unofficial Members Robert Hart, for they can speak, not as servants, are so well known, have each prepared an anti- in regard to the proposed abolition of the Light but as masters of the position. They can insist

mercantile and shipping interest, make strong Estimates, which have been in your hands for the plague without recording the Colony's indebt- I consider that I am bound to redeem the Customs are matters on which it appears to us -- Saghallen. 13th November-Benlowood, representations on the subject, and their some time, and which I new lay upon the table, edness to the Medical Department of this Colony, pledge given by my predecessor to the moment; we are Bellona, Orestes. 17th November-Borneo, representations and opinions should not I think you will have observed that the Revenue for including the Sisters, Dr. Wilm, of the Impe- that this special rate should cease as soon as the concerned to-day rather with its personnel, This Asione, Plaguey. 20th November-Ballent by Admiral Hoffman, also rendered invalu- With a view of covering the deficit which will subject requiring the most careful management Myrmiden, Colong, Blisabeth Richmers, Sentaand consideration. To say that the welfare of 27th November-Formosa. Oscar. 1st Decempatients at the Kennedytown Hospital, of which Members are of opinion that a fixed charge of the administration depends upon the personnel ber-Helen Richmers, Medusa, Prometheus, unofficial members at which the question was have every reason to expect that it will be he was in charge, and by his scientific investi- 2 cents per ton should in future be imposed as it unnecessary; to maintain it in a high state of Ceylon. Sydney. gations which, it is hoped, will prove of much light dues on all shipping entering the harbour, discipline and efficiency, and to ensure the prevalence of signit de corps and a healthy tone amongst its members should be the aim of all who have its best interests at heart. That these latter attributes have preatly diminished in ment, of the asultary condition of the native | headings for the x2 months ending 31st October, | recent years is a fact patent to every resident in quarters of the City. This question, however, is 1896, with those for the preceding 12 months, we the East; where formerly they existed, we now The principal increases in expenditure, as of so difficult a nature that I have appointed a find decreases of 21 per cent, in robberies from meet with feelings of discontent and uneasiness strengthening preperties, most valuable in Con-Commission to engaine into the existence of the person, 53 per cent. in burgiaries and larcenies for the future. That this is parily due to poll- sumption and wasting diseases. Read the insanitary properties and to report on the best from dwellings, 30 per cent. in cases of obtaining | tical and financial aspects, we may admit; but | following :- "I have found: Scott's Emulsion of mode of dealing with them. The matter is now | money under false presences, 37 per cent, in | there is another factor, vir., the absence of great benefit in the treatment of phthisical and under their consideration. The Colony is cases of unlawful possession, and 7 per cent. in superannuation, which has for some time been scrotnlous diseases. It is extremely palatable to be congratulated on its immunity from any larcenies. There were 25 cases of wilful wound- making itself keenly felt, It speaks volumes and does not upset the stomach—thus removing outbreak of cholera such as has visited the sister ing as against 17 in the preceding period, and for the kindness of heart which has always the great difficulty experienced in the administracolony of Singapore. A typhoon of unusual 14 more cases under the Women and Girls Pro- characterised the Inspector-General that no tion of the plain oil.-D. P. Kruma, L.R.C.S., severity swept over the Colony on the 20th July | tection Ordinance than in the previous 12 | rules have ever been formulated by him on this | Surgeon, St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin. Any last. It caused great damage to property, but months. The increases under various other subject. In the younger days of the Service they | Chemist can supply it, Sole Agents for Hongfortunately owing to the timely warning of its heads are trifling and the number of naturally unnecessary; but the time had kong and the Empire of China -- Watking & Con dome when it would appear imperative that some Houghong,--[Adet,

steps should be taken to remove the congestion which prevails in the subordinate ranks." As things are to-day, promotion, except in cases of was opened by me on the 13th of November. arbitrary selection, has become so slow as to compare unlay surably with that of other and better paid Government services; so slow, in fact, as to cause among the younger employes a perthat now it is in possession of a Home, it manent feeling of discontent. In all Governwill be able not only to continue its labours, | ment administrations the necessity for compulsory resignation of senior men, after certain specified terms of service, is recognised; where general efficiency and satisfaction are almed at such a measure is unavoldable. It may be said that the Customs have no pensions; but, on the other hand, the septennial sterling bonuses may well be considered to present in the case of longservice,m:n, an ample equivalent.

From the last Customs Service List we gather that in the case of the 12 Senior Commissioners the average period of service is over 31 years, and their average term as Commissioners is about 23 years, nine having served in that capacity for over 24 years. Turning next to the Deputy Commissioners we note that they number 16, with an average service of 20% vears : next come 2 Senior Atalatants of 37 years' standing and 16 First Assistants whose average is 23 years. We need not follow our enquiry through all the lower grades, but when we observe that it requires, generally speaking, over 21 years for an employe to reach a salary of Tis. 225 a month, we cease to wonder at whatever discontent such employes

may occasionally express with their condition. The man who has served 30 years, with the liberal pay and allowances of a Commissioner for 20 years of that period, should be in a position witer that time to make room for his juniors-in may other service he would be compelled to do so-even though his mental and physical capacities for work be in no wise impaired; and it is evident that unless he does so, there is slight hope for younger men to attain to the posts in which lies a possibility of providing for old age. It is impossible for an Inspector-General or the Chinese Government to expect hearty service on to obtain enthusiasm from an employe who, after ten or twelve years' work, finds himself on the salary of a second-rate clerk; and it will be equally impossible for the Customs Administration to preserve its former high standard of men and recognised efficiency of work II such con-

ditions continue to prevail. We make these comments in no spirit of gratultous criticism: As Englishmen, we are proud of the Service that Englishmen have founded and maintained. The machine is a good on . but its flaws, evident and palpable, call for and deserve recognition by all who would work for its maintenance. 'If these flaws be due to the Chinese Government, there are now interested parties enough to have them remedied; but in any case, the personnel of the Customs should benceforth, by virtue of recent events, be locked upon as a matter more of international than of private importance.

In conclusion, we trust that the senior members of the Customs will not take our remarks as written in any spirit critical of their worth or qualifications. We are ready to admit, on the confrary, that, as a rule, "age cannot wither, nor the Customs state, their infinite variety to but we write on the broad grounds of good policy and fair play, hoping the greatest good for the greatest number, and desiring to show wherein, according to our observation, lies a possible tource of danger and degeneration to the whole. Service, unless a remedy be swiftly applied.-N. C. Daily News.

SHIPPING AND MAIL NEWS.

MAILS DUE: Tacoma (Victoria) 5th inst. French (Saghallen) 4th inst. American (City of Rio de Janeiro) zzth inst. English (.....) 16th inst. Tacoma (Olympia) 25th inst. Canadian (Empress of China) 30th inst.

WE are informed by the Agents of the Austrian Lloyd's S. N. Co. that the Company's steamer Gisela left Kobe for this port, via Shimonoseki, yesterday afternoon.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s steamer Empress of Indla arrived at Kobo at I s.m. yesterday, and lait at r p.m. the same day for Yokohama and Vancouver.

SHIPPING RETURNS. From 5 p.m. yesterday to 5 p.m. to-day. ARRIVALE. Woosungsteamer lions Chinking Klangnan n Bangkok Aggregating 6,015 tons segister. DEPARTURES. Blanena . Singapore

. Nagasaki

HONGKONG AND WHAT			FIUR
Heungsham	in	Kowloon	Do
Lakin	22	**	۱,
Dante	**	, 10	
Irene (H.I.G.M.S.)	91	**	- 1
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John Balsley	H C	osmopolita	n
Chutagong	14	Aberdeen	
Keong Was	19	Aberdeen	

Aggregating 0.345 tons register.

PASSED THE CANAL. · OUTWARD-27th October-Dordogus. Long. The political and financial status of the bard, 30th October-Medusa. 6th November latter, in an international service, must ever be a | moral. 24th November-Bayerne Chinewo. HOMEWARD-24th November-Marie Va-

> Scorr's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil, with Hypophosphites, is a combination of two most valuable remedies, in a paintable and easily digested form, having great healing and

leria. 27th : November.—Argyle, Glaucus.

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above Ports TO-MORROW, the 4th instant, at

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BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Captain Vaughan, will be despatched as above

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"ULYSSES."

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WEDNESDAY, the 9th instant, at 3 P.M.

TO-MORROW, the 4th Instant, at 3 P.M.

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BEWARE OF SPURIOUS IMITATIONS!

Lill of Applications will be Opened on Saturday, the 28th November, 1896, and will be Closed on Saturday, the 12th December, 1896

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CAPITAL\$50,000.00. Divided into 5,000 whores of \$10 each, of which roo inly paid up shares will be allotted to he vendor in part payment of the purchase moter, and of the remainder 2,500 shares are neweffered for subscription, payable as follows : -siper share on application, \$5 per share on alloment, and the remaining \$3 per share as required at call.

> General Manager : C. HOLDSWORTH, Esq.

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Solicite K. W. MOUNSEY, Erq. Secretary (pro tem): GEORGE W. KIRKPATRICK, Esq., c/a Hongkong Hatel.

THE COMPANY has been formed for the purposes more particularly set out in the Company's Prospector and Memorandum and Atikles of Association, both of which can be sees at the Offices of the Company's Solicitor. The business since its commencement in Much, 1895, shows a net profit of about 40 per cent, which with sufficient capital should in a shed time increase to a marked extent and reign' a handsome profit on the subscribed capial. The purchase price has been fixed by the Vendor at \$10,000, payable as to \$5,000 in call and as to the balance in 500 fully paid-up

Plans for the necessary buildings have been pressed and the estimated cost of the land and buildings, exclusive of machinery, will be about

Apiece of land situated on the Sau Ki Wan Raid has been selected for the business of the The lot contains an area of 37,500 square feet,

has good frontage and an adequate fresh water suply. On the sea front a Pier or Whari sufficiti for the immediate requirements of the Company will be constructed, the cost of which is Included in the above mentioned sum The machinery which will be necessary

(Induding a steam-isunch) can be obtained at a Contof about \$4,000. Anangements have been made whereby the serices of Mr. Holdsworth have been secured as General Manager of the Company for a term

of ive years. His unique experience in Mica malpulation will be of immense value to the The only contract entered into is one made betreep Mr. Holdsworth of the one part and the

Company of the other part, a draft of which has for the purpose of identification been signed by two of the persons signing the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Agreement, Memorandum and Articles

of Association, and plans and all other information can be inspected and given at the Offices of the Company's Solicitor, Mr. K. W. MOUNERY, MENTS, &c. No. 51 and 53. Queen's Road Central. Applications for shares should be made upon

COLOURS and PAINTINGS. formt, which can be obtrined from the Company's Bankers or Solicitor and the amount psyible on application must at the same time be paid to the Company's Bankers. the ellotment is made, the deposit will be CASE, Several TEAK and ROSEWOOD BOOK-CASES.

returned without deduction or interest. AGeneral Meeting of applicants will be held on he 16th December, 1896, when the alletment & Co., in Good Condition. of hares will be eroceeded with. Hongkong, 27th November, 1896. [1835 | DERS, &c.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned begs to potlfy the Public that he has contracted for the whole projection of the HONGKONG AND CHINA GAS COMPANY'S TAR and COKE and that he will CHIT ON Business as a DEALER in TAR and BRASS MOUNTED with FIXINGS, COKE at No. 251, PRAYA WEST.

FOOK KEE. Hongkong, 1st December, 1896.

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Sole Manufacturers :-FARHWERKE VORM. MEISTER LUCIUS & BRUNING, HOECHST o. M.

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AFTERDINNER CAKES,

CHOUX A LA CREME,

CHOCOLATE CAKES,

Hongkong, 20th November, 1806.

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BETWEEN YOU AND

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SPONGE CAKES,

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BEG to inform my Customers and the

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ORDERS for SPECIAL CAKES will be

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Speciality for BALLS or SOIREBS.

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To introduce to you our immense facili-ties we will send free of charge to you or

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FURNITURE COTTAGE PIANO.

HANDSOME PICTURES & ORNAMENTS,

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PUBLIC AUCTION

SATURDAY, the 5th December, 1896,

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Comprising :-

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Auctioneer.

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Hongkong, 1st December, 1806,

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"TOKIO MARU," Captain E. S. Barstow, will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 15th Dec.,

This Steamer is fitted with Superior Passenger Accommodation and carries a duly qualified For Freight or Passage, apply to NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA. Hougkong, 25th November, 1896.

"BEN " LINE OF STEAMERS. FOR LONDON, WA SUEZ CANAL. THE Steamship

Captain Farguhar, will be despatched as above on or about the 15th December. For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

"BENLEDI,"

Hongkong, 24rd Navember, 1866.



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MONTHLY SERVICE. (Under Mail Contract.)

FOR SINGAPORE COLOMBO AND вомпач.

(Calling at TUTICORIN on the homeward THE Company's Steamship "HIROSHIMA MARU."

Captain C. Andersen, will be despatched for the above forts on FRIDAY, the 18th December For Freight or Passage, apply to NIPPON VUSEN KAISHA

Honekone, 25th November 170%.

YUSEN KAISHA.

JAPAN-EUROPE LINE. MONTHLY SERVICE.

FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, PORT SAID, MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP. HE Company's Steamship

HANDSOME ENGRAVINGS, WATER "YAMAG"CHI MARU." Captain Allen, will be despatched as above ou SUNDRY CANTON BLACKWOOD SATURDAY, the 19th December, at Noon, instead of as previously advertised, and will be One Very HANDSOME. SATINWOOD followed by the CYLINDER WRITING DESK with BOOK

"KAGOSHIMA MARU," Captain. Trennt, to sail hence on and January.

For Freight or Passage, apply to NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA. Hongkong, 26th November, 1896.

JAVA, CHINA, JAPAN LINE OF STEAMERS.

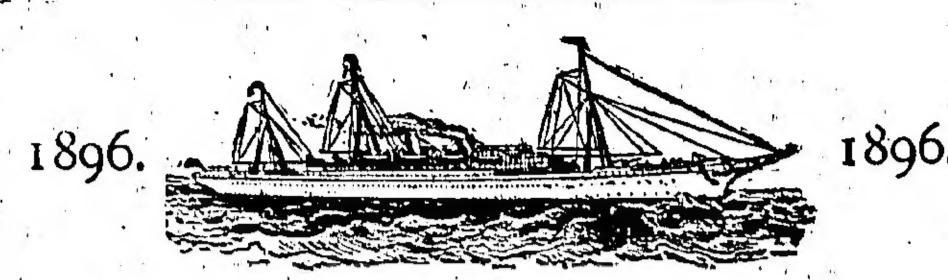
UNDER MANAGEMENT OF THE -royal packet navigation company OF NETHERLANDS INDIA. PROPOSED SAILINGS.

(Subject to Alterations.) IAVA, HONGKONG, YOKOHAMA, KOBE, AMOY, HONGKONG, SINGAPORE, " FROM HONGKONG.

S.S. Germania..... | To JAVA..... | Dec. S.S. Cassins..... | To JAPAN ... | Dec. S.S. Cassius To JAVA..... January. S.S. Federatten ... | To JAPAN ... | January.

General Agents for China & Tapan, LAUTS, WEGENER'S Co. Majoras 25th Morember, 2595, 🐃 (1889) Maiis.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE



PUNCTUALITY. SAFETY. THE FAST ROUTE BETWEEN CHINA, JAPAN AND EUROPE, VIA CANADA. AND THE UNITED STATES.

(CALLING AT SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA AND VICTORIA, B.C.) Twin Screw Steamships-6,000 Tons-10,000 Horse Power-Speed 19 knots.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

EMPRESS OF FAPAN ... Comdr. Geo. A: Loc, R.N.R..... WEDNESDAY, 23rd December. BMPRESS OF CHINA...Comdr. R. Archibald, R.N.R....WEDNESDAY, 20th January, 1897 BMPRESS OF INDIA ... Comdr. O. P. Marshall, R.N.R... WEDNESDAY, 17th February, 197.

THE magnificent Steamships of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make the voyage YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER (B.C.) in 12 DAYS, making close connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY which leave daily, and cross the Continent FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, New York and Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Lines, which passengers to Great Britain and the Continent are given choice of. Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD. Return

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CIRCULAR PACIFIC TOUR TICKETS Hongkong to Vancouver, Vancouver to Sydney Australia, via Honolulu, and Sydney to Hongkong via Brisbane and Torres Straits, Good for o months, £100.

The attractive features of this Company's route, embrace its PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS (second to none in the World), the LUXURIANCE OF ITS TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAIN: (the Company having received the highest award for same at recent Chicago Werld's Exhibition) and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY through which the Railway passes.

THE DINING CARS and MOUNTAIN HOTELS of this route are owned and operated by the Company, and their appointments and Cuizine are unexcelled. For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage, &c., apply to

D. E. BROWN, General Agent, Hongkong, 25th November, 1896. Pedder's Street.

OCCIDENTAL & ORIEN-TAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES,

CENTION AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE

THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. Cootic (via Shanghal, Nagasaki, Kobe, In- Thursday, 10th Dec., land Sea, Yokohama at Noon. and Honolulu)

Gaette (via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, In- | Tuesday, 20th Dec., land Sea and Yokoat Noon. hama)

Doric (via Shanghai, Nagazaki, Kobe, in-Sainiday, 16th Jan., land Sea, Yekohama at Noon, 1897. and Honolulu)

"I"HE Company's Steamship

"COPTIC"

will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA. YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU, on THURSDAY, the 10th December, 1896, at

Steamers of this line pass through the IN LAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at Honolylu and passengers are allowed to break their durney at any point en rowfe. .

Through Passage Tickets granted to England France and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada, Rater, and particulars of the various Roures may be obtained upon application.

Special rates (First-class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military Diplomatic and Civil Services, to European Officials in service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families,

Passengurs who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or wice versa) within one year, will be allowed a discount of to per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares for China and Japan to Rurobe.

All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to address in full; and same will be received at the Company's Office until Five P.M. the day previous to sailing. Consular Invoices to accommunity Cargo des-

tined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Offices, addressed to the Collector of Customs. San Francisco. For further information as to Freight Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company,

No. 7, Praya Central. J, S. VAN BUREN, Agent Hongkong, 34th November 1806

F. BLACKHEAD & CO., SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MER-CHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS, PRAYA CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

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VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN AND HONOLULU.

PROPOSE D SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG. City of Rio de Janeiro (via Shang hai, Naga-Saurday, 19th Dec., saki. Kol i, Inland at Noon. Ses, Yoko sama and Honolulu) Cuy of Peking (via

Shanghai, Nagasaki, Thursday, 7th Jan., Kobe, In and at Noon, 1897. Yokohama & Hone-Inia) China (vin Shanghai, Nagazaki, Kobe, In-Tuesday, 26th Jan.,

and Honolulu)..... THE U.S. Mall Steamship

land Sea, Yokohama

"CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO" will be despetched for SAN FRANCISCO, was SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, INLAND SEA. YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU, on SATURDAY, the 19th December, 1896, at Noon, taking Passengers and Freight fer Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Steamers of this line pass through the IN LAND SEA OF JAPAN, and call at Honolulu and passengers are allowed to break their lourney at any point ex route.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers, and to the principal cities of the United States or Canada. Rates may be obtained on application.

Passengers holding through ORDERS TO EUROPE have "the choice of Overland Raff Routes from San Francisco, including SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and NORTHERN PACIFIC RAIL-WAYS; also the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAIL-WAY or payment of fa in addition to the regular tariff rate.

Passengers holding Orders FOR OVERLAND CITIES in the United States have, between SAN FRANCISCO and CHICAGO, the option of the SOUTHERN PACIFIC, CENTRAL PACIFIC, UNION PACIFIC, DENVER and RIO GRANDE, and other direct connecting Railways, and from Chicago to destination the choice of direct lines.

Particulars of the various routes can be and on application. Special rates (first class only) are granted to Missionaries, members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Service, to European Officers in the service of China and Japan, and to Government officials and their families.

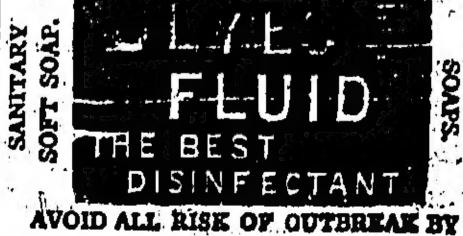
Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports. to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Rallways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers. Freight will be received on board until a P.M.

the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will FIHE 100 Az British Ship be received at the Office until 5 P.M. name day : all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in fall ; value of same is required. Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo des-'2 tined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the

United States, should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco. For further information as to Passage and Ineight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 7, Praya Central.

J. S. VAN BUREN, Agent. Homekong, 3rd December, 1896,

NOTICE. THE BEST PREVENTIVE OF ALL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.



ITS USE. W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co. Baik Bullian. Wy March Lat.

Mails.

NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP AND RAILWAY COMPANIES:

VIA INLAND SEA OF JAPAN. THE attention of Passengers is directed to the very cheap rates offered by this Line to the PACIFIC COAST and the INTERIOR and EASTERN CITIES of the United STATES and

CANADA and to EUROPE. HONGKONG TO LONDON \$400. Excellent accommodation. First-class Table. DOCTOR and STEWARDESS carried.

HONGKONG TO NEW YORK \$350. The Railroad travelling is second to none on the American Continent. Magnificent Scenery of the Rocky and Cascade Mountains. The YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK route. Passengers to EUROPE may proceed by one of the first Class ATLANTIC MAIL LINES.

HONGKONG TO TACOMA \$225. Rates of Passage to other Points on application. Special rates allowed to members of Government Services.

> PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Olympia | 2,608 | Tuesday ... | lan. 19.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.) Tacoma 2,549 | Tuerdey ... | Dec. 8. Victoria | 3,167 | Tuesday ... | Dec. 29.

Brasmar | 3,601 | Tuesday ... | Feb. 9. Tacoma 2549 Tuesday ... | Mar. 2

"TACOMA" Captain T. A. Whistler, R.N.R., sailing at Noon, on TUESDAY, the 8th December, will proceed to VICTORIA, (B.C.), and TACOMA, (Wash.), of SHANGHAI, KÖBE and YOKOHAMA. Through Bills of Lading issued to Japan, Pacific Coast Points, and to Canadian and

United States Points. Consular Involces of Goods for United States Points should be in quadruplicate; and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of the Freight Agent, Northern Pacific Railroad, Tacoma, Wash.

Parcels must be sent to our Office (with address

marked in full) by 5 P.M., on the day previous to For further information as to Passage Freight, apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., General Agents. Hongkong, 17th November, 1806.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ. PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA. ANTWERP, BREMEN AND HAMBURG, PORTS IN THE LEVANT, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS:

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN

THE COMPANY'S STEAMERS WILL CALL AT SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE.

N.B.-CARGO CAN BE TAKEN ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR THE PRINCIPAL.

PLACES IN RUSSIA. PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.) Sacksen | Wednesday | oth Flee. Bayern | Tuesday... | 5th Jan. Prins Heinrich ... | Tuesday ... | 2nd Feb. Preusses | Tuesday... | 2nd March.

N WEDNESDAY, the git day of Dec., 1806, at 9 A.M., the Company's Steamship SACHSEN," Capt. H. Supmer, with MAILS, PASSENGRS. SPECIE and CARGO, WILL leave this Port as above, calling at NAPLES and Shipping Orders will be granted till Noom on MONDAY, the 7th Dec. Cargo and Specia will be received on heard whill g P.M. on TUREDAY

the 5 h Dec., and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until Noon on Tursday, the 8th Dec. Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2 to and Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess. Linen can be washed on board. For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & Co., Hongkong, 21st November, 1896.

SAILING VESSELS.

FOR NEW YORK. THE 3/3 A. L. L. 3/m. American Ship

Wilson, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch. For Freight, apply to CARLOWITZ & Co. Hongkong, 10th October, 1806.

"WILLIAM H. SMITH."

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

"CLAN MACFARLANE," Templeton, Master, will load here for the above-Port, and will have quick despatch. For Freight, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & Co. Hongkong, oth October, 1806.

£1575

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS. FOR SAN FRANCISCO. HE 100 A. Z. Iron 4-mast British Barque

"MATTERHORN," Captain J. Williams, will soon be ready to load for the above Port, and will have quick despatch, For Freight, apply to

MELCHERS & Co., Hongkong, 28th November, 1806. ___ [1840]

FOR NEW YORK, THE 3/3 L. I. I. American Ship "PENOBSCOT," Captain Maculder, will load here for the above

Port, and will have quick despatch, For Freight, apply to ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co. Hongkong, 30th November, 1896.

Printed and Published by CHESNEY

DUNCAN at Ma. 6. Paddor's MIL.